

SECTION 6

REQUESTING STATE MOBILIZATION

6.1 Conditions for Requesting State Fire Resources Mobilization

State fire resources mobilization may be requested when all local and mutual aid fire resources have been expended in attempting to stabilize and control an emergency incident presenting a clear and present danger to life and property and the deployment of additional resources is required.

Regional Fire Defense Plans shall provide for incident and resource situation and status tracking to assure that the Regional Fire Resource Coordinator is aware of the development of the above situation.

Proactive Implementation of State Fire Resources Mobilization

Mobilization occurs “in response to an emergency or disaster situation that has exceeded the capabilities of available local resources.” (RCW 38.54.010) Certain planned events (events “certain”) have the capacity to result in an emergency or disaster situation that could exceed the capabilities of local resources. Additionally, the preparation for such events has the capacity to exceed the capabilities of available local resources. Thus, in such situations it may be reasonable and appropriate to interpret Chapter 38.54 RCW as authorizing proactive mobilization. Proactive mobilization shall be used to provide the increased fire service capacity and capability deemed necessary to meet preplanned management and control objectives for the event.

In the event of a proactive mobilization request, conditions of approval may be imposed, for example:

- No local or mutual aid fire service resources shall be eligible for cost reimbursement
- Only the state mobilization fire resources shall be under the control and direction of the Mobilization Incident Commander (MIC), in keeping with the accepted Delegation of Authority.

Unprotected Areas

State fire resources mobilization shall not be used to obtain fire protection resources for geographical areas with no local fire protection authority (i.e., unprotected areas, sometimes referred to as “No Man’s Lands”) or for the protection of structures in such areas, except as necessary to assist a local fire protection jurisdiction in confining a threatening fire or other hazard outside its exposed jurisdictional area. It must be presumed that the owners of improvements in “unprotected” areas are aware of their status, and state fire resources mobilization is not a substitute for local fire protection, regardless of the circumstances.

6.2 Authority to Request State Fire Resources Mobilization

The authority to request state fire resources mobilization is vested only in the:

- Fire Chief or designee
- or
- Incident Commander acting under a Delegation of Authority from the authorized representative(s) of a local fire protection jurisdiction.

Only these positions have been vested with the authority to request state fire resources mobilization. The key prerequisite for requesting state fire resources mobilization under this *Mobilization Plan* is expended local and mutual aid fire resources as described in Subsection 6.1 and the fire service Incident Commander is charged with the responsibility for incident management and resources.

Requests for state fire resources mobilization shall follow the Mobilization Procedure outlined in Section 8.